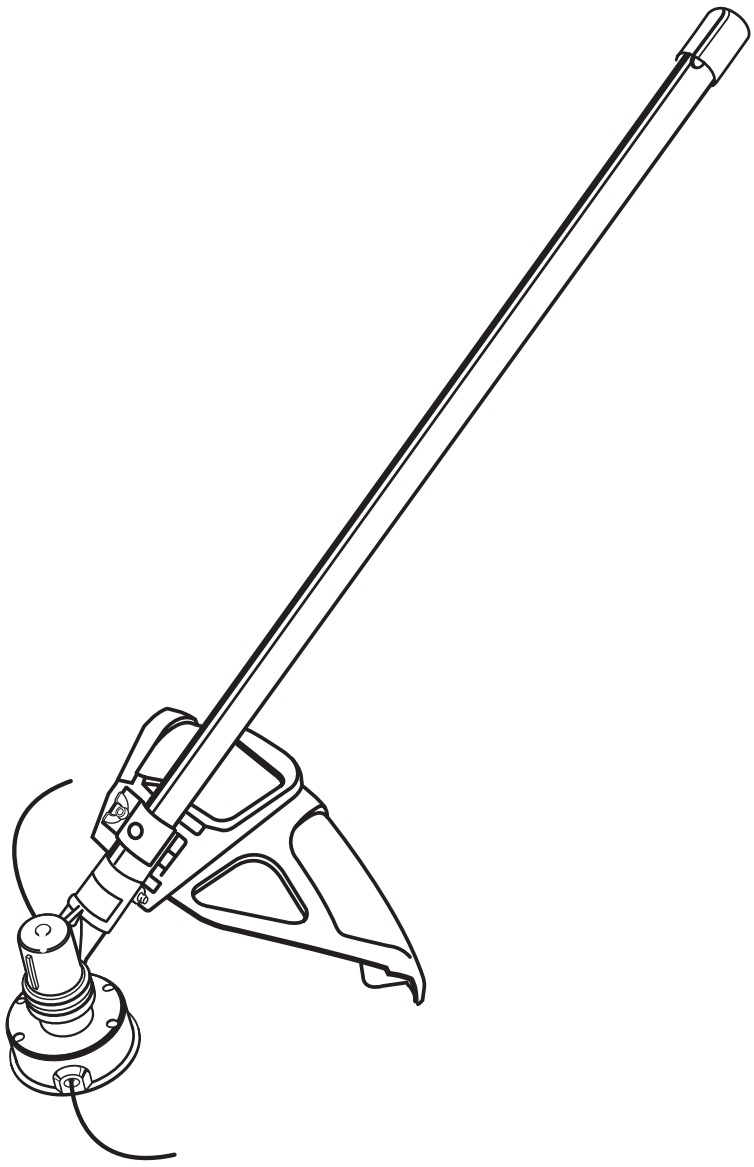
OPERATOR'S MANUAL

Expand-it™ Straight Shaft Trimmer Attachment

UT15522F



Your Expand-it™ Straight Shaft Trimmer Attachment has been engineered and manufactured to a high standard for dependability, ease of operation, and operator safety. When properly cared for, it will give you years of rugged, trouble-free performance.

WARNING: To reduce the risk of injury, the user must read and understand the operator's manual before using this product.

Thank you for buying an Expand-it™ Product.

SAVE THIS MANUAL FOR FUTURE REFERENCE

TABLE OF CONTENTS

- Introduction 2
- General Safety Rules 3
- Specific Safety Rules 4
- Symbols 4-5
- Features 6
- Assembly 7-8
- Operation 8-9
- Maintenance 10-11
- Exploded View and Parts List 12
- Warranty 13
- Parts, Ordering, and Service ..... Back page

INTRODUCTION

This product has many features for making its use more pleasant and enjoyable. Safety, performance, and dependability have been given top priority in the design of this product making it easy to maintain and operate.

GENERAL SAFETY RULES

⚠ WARNING:

Read and understand all instructions. Failure to follow all instructions listed below, may result in electric shock, fire, and/or serious personal injury.

SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS

- Read these instructions and the instructions for the power head thoroughly before using the straight shaft trimmer attachment.
- Know the tool. Read and understand the operator's manual and observe the warnings and instruction labels affixed to the tool.
- Do not allow children or untrained individuals to use this unit.
- Wear safety glasses or goggles that are marked to comply with ANSI Z87.1 standards and hearing protection when operating this unit.
- Wear heavy long pants, boots, and gloves. Do not wear loose fitting clothing, short pants, jewelry of any kind, or go barefoot.
- Secure long hair so it is above shoulder level to prevent entanglement in any moving parts.
- Keep all bystanders, children, and pets at least 50 ft. away. Bystanders should be encouraged to wear eye protection.
- Stay alert, watch what you are doing, and use common sense when operating a power tool. Do not use tool while tired or under the influence of drugs, alcohol, or medication. A moment of inattention while operating power tools may result in serious personal injury.
- Do not operate in poor lighting.
- Do not overreach. Keep proper footing and balance at all times. Proper footing and balance enables better control of the tool in unexpected situations.
- Keep all parts of your body away from any moving part.
- When using the attachment on a trimmer with a gasoline engine, do not touch areas around the muffler or cylinder of the power head. These parts get hot from operation. Failure to heed this warning could result in possible serious personal injury.
- Always stop the engine and remove the spark plug wire or disconnect from power supply before making any adjustments or repairs except for carburetor adjustments.
- Inspect unit before each use for loose fasteners and damaged or missing parts. Correct before using the trimmer attachment. Failure to do so can cause serious injury.
- Use only original manufacturer's replacement parts. Failure to do so may cause poor performance, possible injury, and will void your warranty.
- Do not, under any circumstance, use any attachment or accessory on this product, which was not provided with the product, or identified as appropriate for use with this product in the operator's manual.
- Avoid dangerous environments. Do not use the attachment in damp or wet locations. Do not use in rain.
- Use the right attachment. Do not use attachment for any job except that for which it is intended.

SAFETY RULES WHEN ATTACHMENT IS ATTACHED TO AN ELECTRIC POWERHEAD

- When this attachment is being used with the electric string trimmer, refer to **Electrical Safety Rules** in the *VersaLite™ Electric String Trimmer* Operator's Manual.
- Make sure the cord is located so that it will not be stepped on, tripped over, or otherwise subjected to damage or stress. Keep cord clear of the working area.
- Do not abuse the power cord. Never carry the product by the cord. Never yank the plug out of the receptacle. Keep the cord away from heat, oil, and sharp edges.
- Inspect extension cords for deterioration, cuts, or cracks in the insulation. Repair or replace the cords if any defects appear.
- Keep the extension cord clear of the working area. Position the cord so that it will not come in contact with the attachment when in use. Failure to do so can result in serious personal injury.
- Check extension cords before each use. If damaged replace them immediately. Touching the damaged area could cause serious injury due to electrical shock.

SPECIFIC SAFETY RULES

- Replace string head if cracked, chipped, or damaged in any way. Be sure the string head is properly installed and securely fastened. Failure to do so can cause serious injury.
- Make sure all deflectors and handles are properly and securely attached.
- Use only flexible, non-metallic line recommended by the manufacturer. Never use wire, wire rope, or flail blades, which can break off and become dangerous projectiles.
- Never operate string trimmer without the grass deflector in place and in good condition.
- Maintain a firm grip on both handles while trimming.
- Keep string head below waist level. Never cut with the string head located over 30 in. or more above the ground.
- Clear the work area before each use. Remove all objects such as rocks, broken glass, nails, wire, or string which can be thrown or become entangled in the cutting line .
- Save these instructions. Refer to them frequently and use them to instruct others who may use this tool. If you loan someone this tool, loan them these instructions also to prevent misuse of the product and possible injury.

SYMBOLS

Some of the following symbols may be used on this tool. Please study them and learn their meaning. Proper interpretation of these symbols will allow you to operate the tool better and safer.

SYMBOL	NAME	EXPLANATION
	Safety Alert Symbol	Precautions that involve your safety.
	Read Your Operator's Manual	To reduce the risk of injury, user must read and understand operator's manual before using this product.
	Wear Eye and Hearing Protection	Wear eye protection which is marked to comply with ANSI Z87.1 as well as hearing protection when operating this equipment.
	Keep Bystanders Away	Keep all bystanders at least 50 ft. (15 m) away.
	Ricochet	Thrown objects can ricochet and result in personal injury or property damage.
	No Blade	Do not install or use any type of blade on a product displaying this symbol.

SYMBOLS

The following signal words and meanings are intended to explain the levels of risk associated with this product.

SYMBOL	SIGNAL	MEANING
⚠	**DANGER:**	Indicates an imminently hazardous situation, which, if not avoided, will result in death or serious injury.
⚠	**WARNING:**	Indicates a potentially hazardous situation, which, if not avoided, could result in death or serious injury.
⚠	**CAUTION:**	Indicates a potentially hazardous situation, which, if not avoided, may result in minor or moderate injury.
	CAUTION:	(Without Safety Alert Symbol) Indicates a situation that may result in property damage.

SERVICE

Servicing requires extreme care and knowledge and should be performed only by a qualified service technician. For service we suggest you return the product to your nearest **AUTHORIZED SERVICE CENTER** for repair. When servicing, use only identical replacement parts.

⚠ WARNING:

To avoid serious personal injury, do not attempt to use this product until you read thoroughly and understand completely the operator's manual. If you do not understand the warnings and instructions in the operator's manual, do not use this product. Call Expand-it customer service for assistance.

⚠ WARNING:

The operation of any power tool can result in foreign objects being thrown into your eyes, which can result in severe eye damage. Before beginning power tool operation, always wear safety goggles or safety glasses with side shields and, when needed, a full face shield. We recommend Wide Vision Safety Mask for use over eyeglasses or standard safety glasses with side shields. Always use eye protection which is marked to comply with ANSI Z87.1.

SAVE THESE INSTRUCTIONS

FEATURES

PRODUCT SPECIFICATIONS

String Cutting Width.....18 in.
String Diameter ..... .080 in.
Weight .....3.25 lbs.

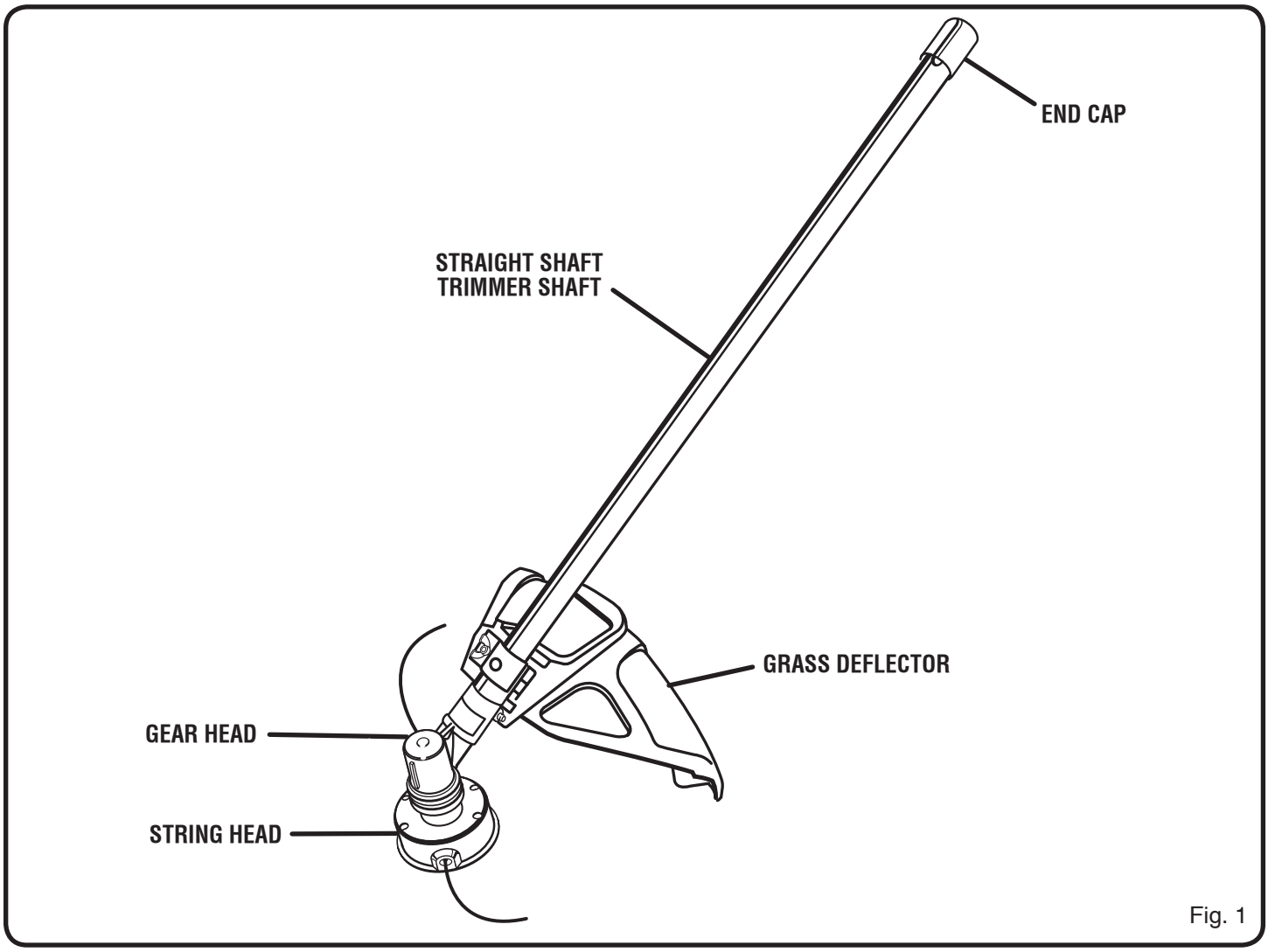


Fig. 1

KNOW YOUR STRING TRIMMER ATTACHMENT

See Figure 1.

The safe use of this product requires an understanding of the information on the tool and in this operator's manual as well as a knowledge of the project you are attempting. Before use of this product, familiarize yourself with all operating features and safety rules.

GRASS DEFLECTOR

The trimmer includes a grass deflector that helps protect you from flying debris.

ASSEMBLY

UNPACKING

This product requires assembly.

- Carefully remove the items from the box. Make sure that all items listed in the packing list are included.
- Inspect the product carefully to make sure no breakage or damage occurred during shipping.
- Do not discard the packing material until you have carefully inspected and satisfactorily operated the tool.
- If any parts are damaged or missing, please call 1-800-242-4672 for assistance.

PACKING LIST

Expand-it™ Straight Shaft Trimmer Attachment

Grass Deflector

Hanger Cap

Operator's Manual

WARNING:

If any parts are damaged or missing, do not operate this tool until the parts are replaced. Failure to heed this warning could result in serious personal injury.

WARNING:

Do not attempt to modify this tool or create accessories not recommended for use with this tool. Any such alteration or modification is misuse and could result in a hazardous condition leading to possible serious personal injury.

WARNING:

Do not connect to power head until assembly is complete. Failure to comply could result in accidental starting and possible serious personal injury.

JOINING THE POWER HEAD TO THE STRAIGHT SHAFT TRIMMER ATTACHMENT

See Figure 2.

WARNING:

Never attach or adjust any attachment while power head is running. Failure to stop the engine may cause serious personal injury.

The straight shaft trimmer attachment connects to the power head by means of a coupler device.

- Loosen the knob on the coupler of the power head shaft and remove the end cap from the attachment shaft.

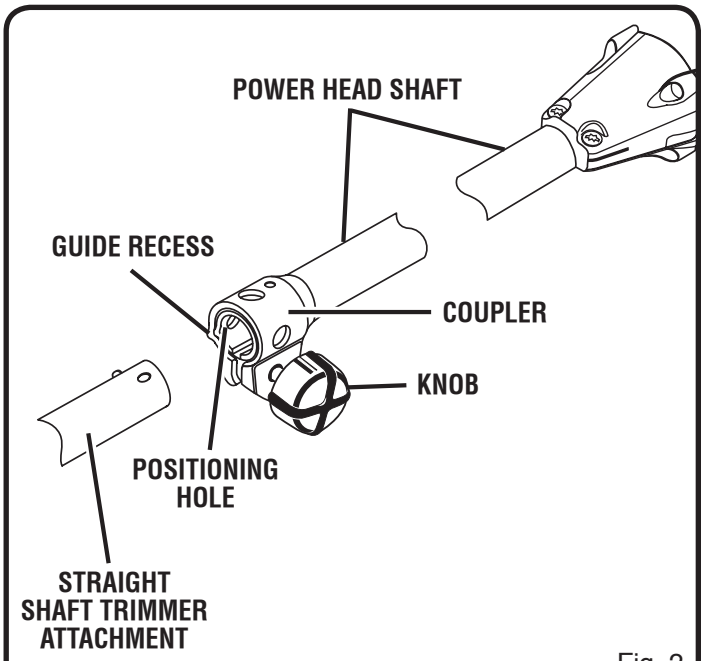


Fig. 2

- Push in the button located on the straight shaft trimmer attachment. Align the button with the guide recess on the power head coupler and slide the two shafts together. Rotate attachment shaft until button locks into the positioning hole.

NOTE: If the buttons do not release completely in the positioning holes, the shafts are not locked into place. Slightly rotate from side to side until the button is locked into place.

- Tighten the knob securely.

WARNING:

Be certain the knob is fully tightened before operating equipment. Check it periodically for tightness during use to avoid serious injury.

REMOVING THE ATTACHMENT FROM THE POWER HEAD

For removing or changing the attachment:

- Loosen the knob.
- Push in the button and twist the shafts to remove and separate ends.

ATTACHING THE GRASS DEFLECTOR

See Figure 3.

- Remove the slotted hex head screw from the grass deflector.

ASSEMBLY

- Insert the tab on the mounting bracket in the slot on the grass deflector.
- Align the screw hole in the mounting bracket with the screw hole in the grass deflector.
- Insert the wing screw through the mounting bracket and into the grass deflector.
- Tighten the screw securely.

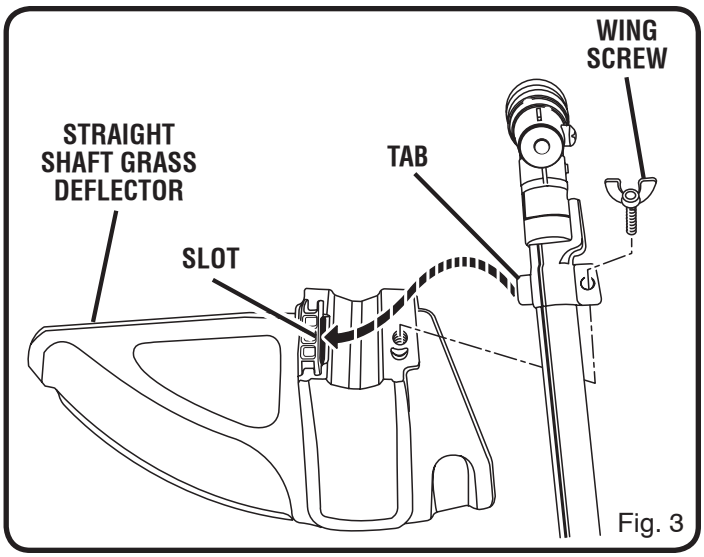


Fig. 3

OPERATION

WARNING:

Do not allow familiarity with tools to make you careless. Remember that a careless fraction of a second is sufficient to inflict serious injury.

WARNING:

Always wear safety goggles or safety glasses with side shields when operating power tools. Failure to do so could result in objects being thrown into your eyes resulting in possible serious injury.

WARNING:

Do not use any attachments or accessories not recommended by the manufacturer of this tool. The use of attachments or accessories not recommended can result in serious personal injury.

APPLICATIONS

You may use this tool for the purpose listed below:

- Trimming grass and weeds from around porches, fences, and decks

ADVANCING TRIMMER CUTTING LINE

String advance is controlled by tapping the string head on grass while running engine at full throttle.

- Run engine at full throttle.
- Tap the spool retainer on ground to advance string. The string advances each time the spool retainer is tapped. Do not hold the spool retainer on the ground.

  NOTE: The line trimming cut-off blade on the grass deflector will cut the line to the correct length.
- If the string is worn too short you may not be able to advance the string by tapping it on the ground. If so, stop the engine and manually advance the string by pushing the spool retainer down while pulling on string(s).

LINE TRIMMING CUT-OFF BLADE

See Figure 4.

The trimmer is equipped with a line trimming cut-off blade on the grass deflector. For best cutting, advance string until it is trimmed to length by the cut-off blade. Advance the string whenever you hear the engine running faster than normal, or when trimming efficiency diminishes. This will maintain best performance and keep the string long enough to advance properly.

OPERATING THE TRIMMER

See Figure 5.

WARNING:

Always position the unit on the operator's right side. The use of the unit on the operator's left side will expose the user to hot surfaces and can result in possible burn injury.

WARNING:

To avoid burns from hot surfaces, never operate unit with the bottom of the engine above waist level.

OPERATION

Hold the trimmer with your right hand on the rear handle and your left hand on the front handle. Keep a firm grip with both hands while in operation. Trimmer should be held at a comfortable position with the rear handle about hip height.

Cut tall grass from the top down. This will prevent grass from wrapping around the shaft housing and string head which could cause damage from overheating. If grass becomes wrapped around the string head, STOP THE ENGINE, disconnect the spark plug wire, and remove the grass.

NOTE: When the attachment is being used on a trimmer with a gasoline engine, always operate at full throttle. Prolonged cutting at partial throttle will result in oil dripping from the muffler.

⚠ WARNING:

Always hold the string trimmer away from the body keeping clearance between the body and the product. Any contact with the housing or string trimmer cutting head can result in burns and/or other serious personal injury.

CUTTING TIPS

See Figures 5 - 6.

- Avoid hot surfaces by always keeping the tool away from your body. (Proper operating position shown in figure 5.)
- Keep the trimmer tilted toward the area being cut; this is the best cutting area.
- The trimmer cuts when passing the unit from right to left. This will avoid throwing debris at the operator. Avoid cutting in the dangerous area shown in figure 6.
- Use the tip of string to do the cutting; do not force string head into uncut grass.
- Wire and picket fences cause extra string wear and breakage. Stone and brick walls, curbs, and wood may wear string rapidly.
- Avoid trees and shrubs. Tree bark, wood moldings, siding, and fence posts can easily be damaged by the string.

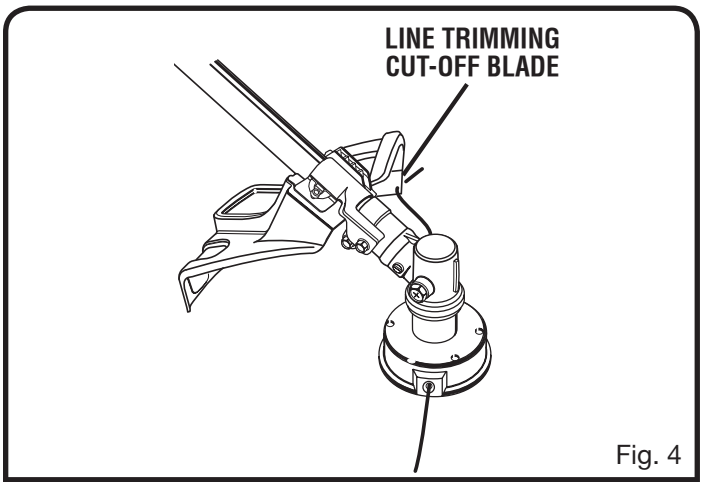


Fig. 4

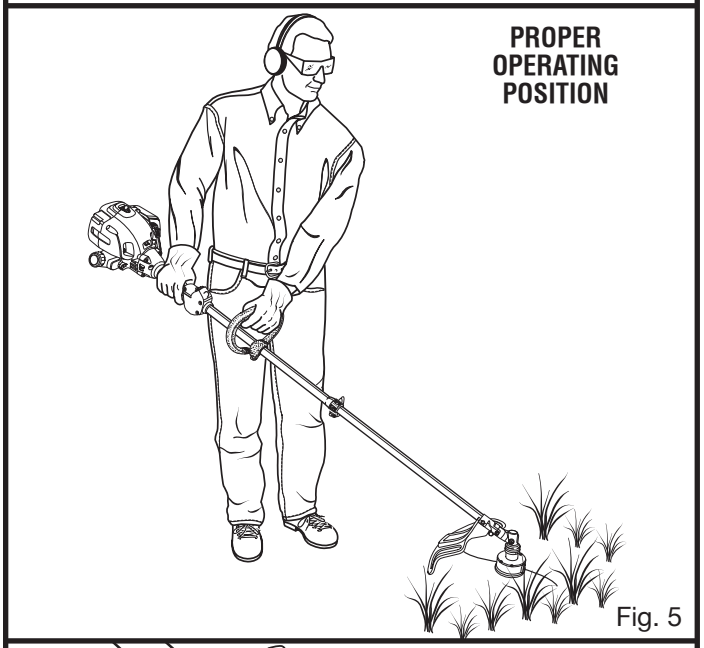


Fig. 5

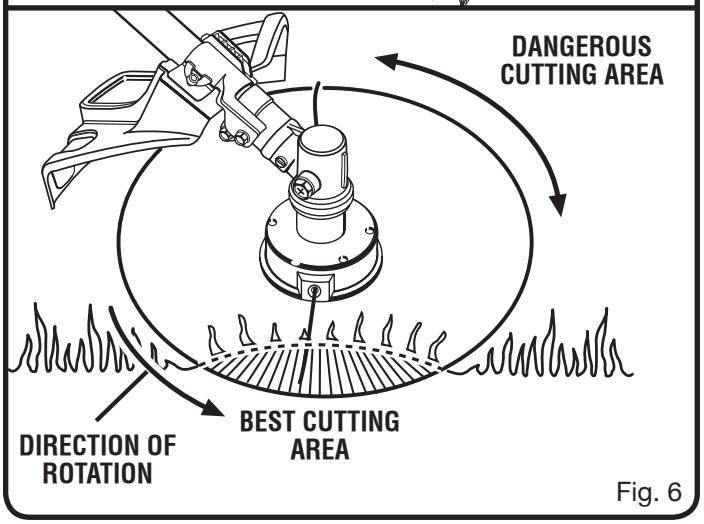


Fig. 6

MAINTENANCE

WARNING:

When servicing, use only identical replacement parts. Use of any other parts may create a hazard or cause product damage.

WARNING:

Always wear safety goggles or safety glasses with side shields during tool operation. If operation is dusty, also wear a dust mask.

WARNING:

Before inspecting, cleaning, or servicing the machine, shut off engine, wait for all moving parts to stop, and disconnect spark plug wire and move it away from spark plug. Failure to follow these instructions can result in serious personal injury or property damage.

GENERAL MAINTENANCE

Avoid using solvents when cleaning plastic parts. Most plastics are susceptible to damage from various types of commercial solvents and may be damaged by their use. Use clean cloths to remove dirt, dust, oil, grease, etc.

WARNING:

Do not at any time let brake fluids, gasoline, petroleum-based products, penetrating oils, etc., come in contact with plastic parts. Chemicals can damage, weaken or destroy plastic which may result in serious personal injury.

You can often make adjustments and repairs described here. For other repairs, have the trimmer serviced by an authorized service dealer.

EZ LINE™ TAP ADVANCE SYSTEM SPOOL REPLACEMENT

NEW PREWOUND SPOOL

See Figures 7 - 8.

If replacing string only, refer to **String Replacement** later in this manual.

Use only .080 in. (2.0 mm) diameter monofilament string. Use the manufacturer's replacement parts for best performance.

- Stop the engine, disconnect the spark plug wire or disconnect from the power supply. Hold the string head and unscrew the spool retainer. Turn clockwise.
- Remove the empty spool from the string head. Use the spring from the empty spool if one is not provided with the new spool and string.
- To install the new spool, make sure the two strings are captured in the slots opposite each other on the new spool. Make sure the ends of each string is extended approximately 6 in. beyond each slot.
- Thread the strings into the eyelets in the string head. Carefully push the spool into the string head (gently pull the strings to the outside if necessary). When the spool is positioned in the string head, grasp the strings and pull sharply to release them from the slots in the spool.
- Push down and turn the spool counterclockwise until it no longer turns. Hold the spool down and rotate clockwise a small amount. Release the spool. The spool should be locked down in the string head. If not, hold down and rotate until locked.
- Make sure the string head and the spool retainer are installed on the shaft by turning the retainer counterclockwise to tighten.
- Pull the strings again to rotate the spool into cutting position. Push the spool retainer down while pulling on string(s) to manually advance the string and to check for proper assembly of the string head.

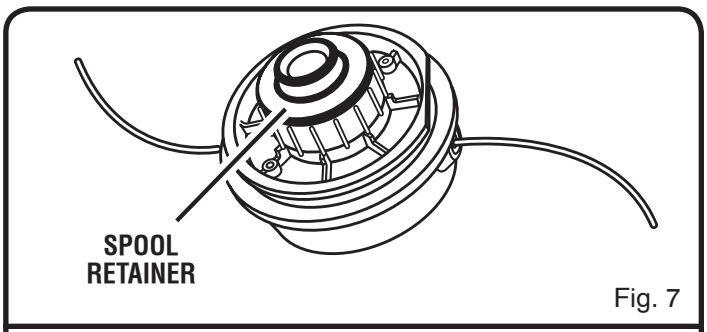


Fig. 7

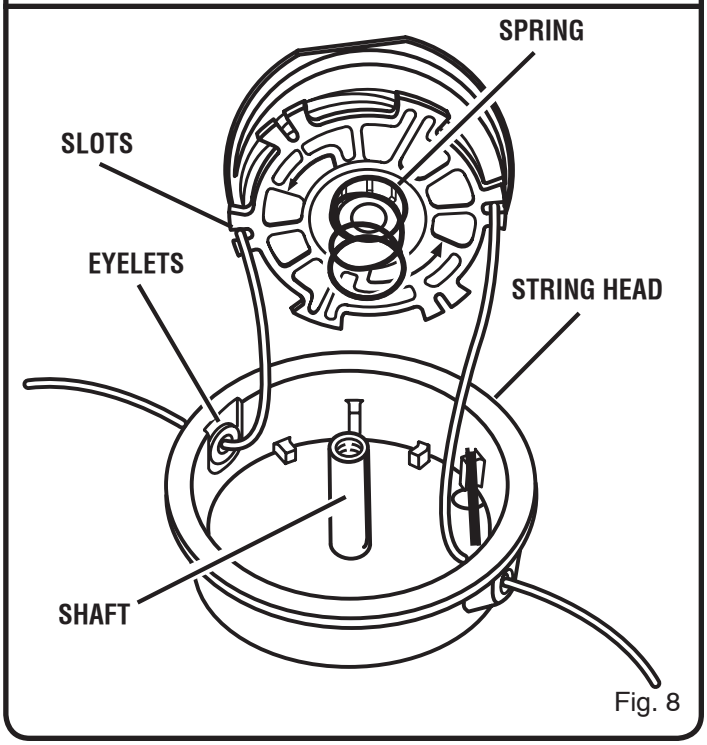


Fig. 8

MAINTENANCE

STRING REPLACEMENT

See Figures 9 - 11.

- Stop the engine, disconnect the spark plug wire or disconnect from the power supply. Hold the string head and unscrew the spool retainer. Turn clockwise.
- Remove the spool from the string head.

  NOTE: Keep the spring attached to the spool. Remove any old string remaining on the spool.
- Cut two pieces of string, each being approximately 9 ft. long.
- Insert the first string into the anchor hole in the upper part of the spool. Wind the first string around the upper part of the spool counterclockwise, as shown by the arrows on the spool. Place string in the slot on upper spool flange, leaving about 6 in. extended beyond the slot. Do not overfill. After winding the string, there should be at least 1/4 in. between the wound string and the outside edge of the spool.
- Repeat above step with second string, using the bottom part of spool. Do not overfill.
- Replace the spool and the spool retainer. Refer to **Spool Replacement** earlier in this manual.

STORING THE TRIMMER ATTACHMENT

Store the straight shaft trimmer attachment in a well-ventilated place that is inaccessible to children. Keep away from corrosive agents such as garden chemicals and deicing salts.

ATTACHING THE STORAGE HANGER

See Figure 12.

There are two ways to hang the attachment for storage.

- To use the hanger cap, push in the button and place the hanger cap over end of the lower end attachment shaft. Slightly rotate the cap from side to side until the button locks into place.
- The secondary hole in the attachment shaft can be used for hanging purposes as well.

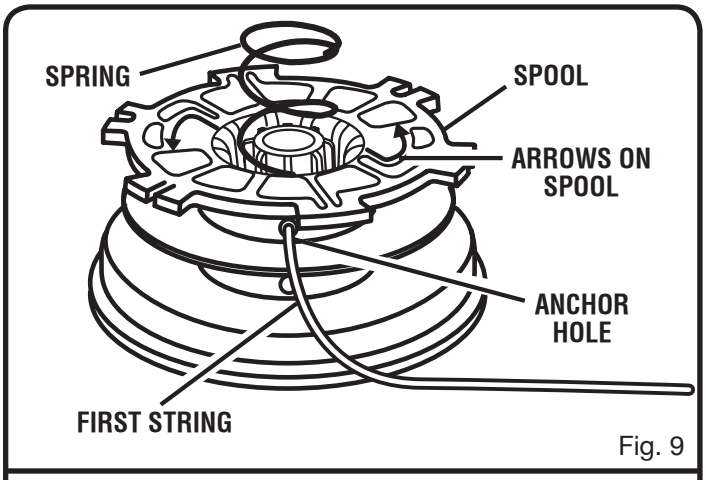


Fig. 9

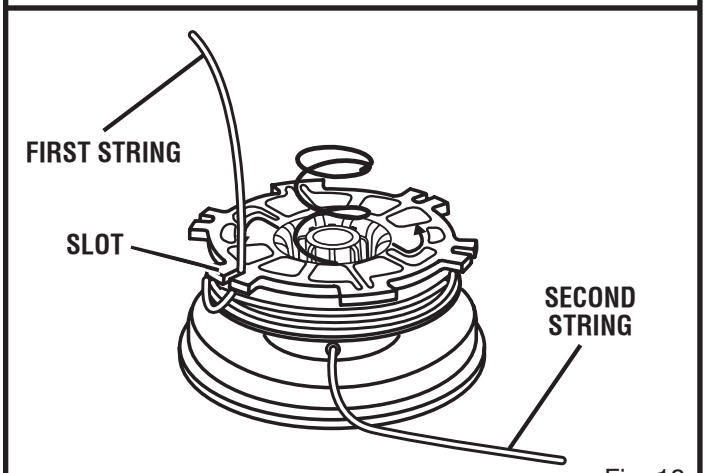


Fig. 10

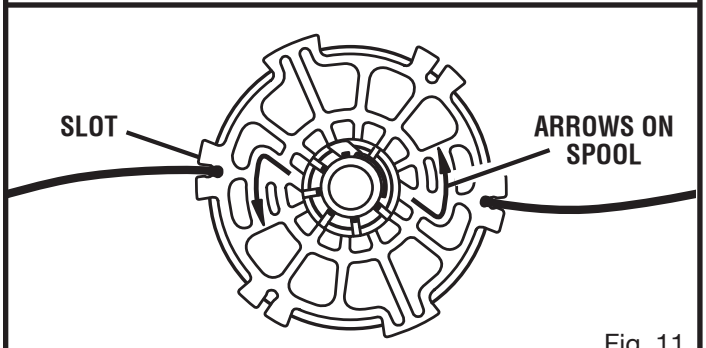


Fig. 11

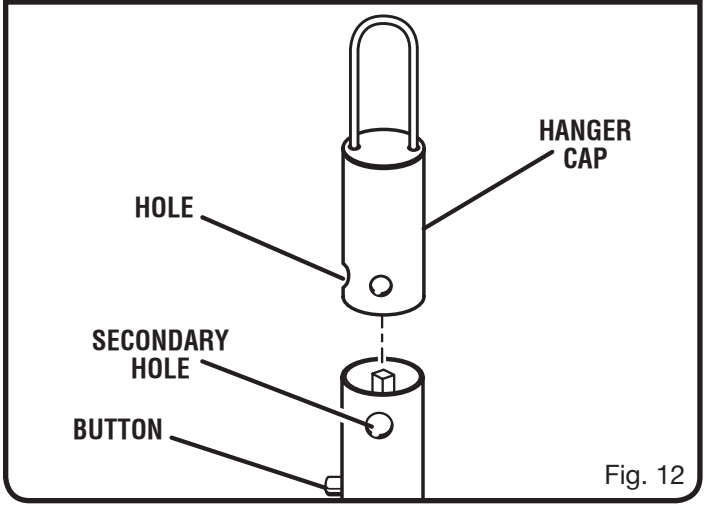
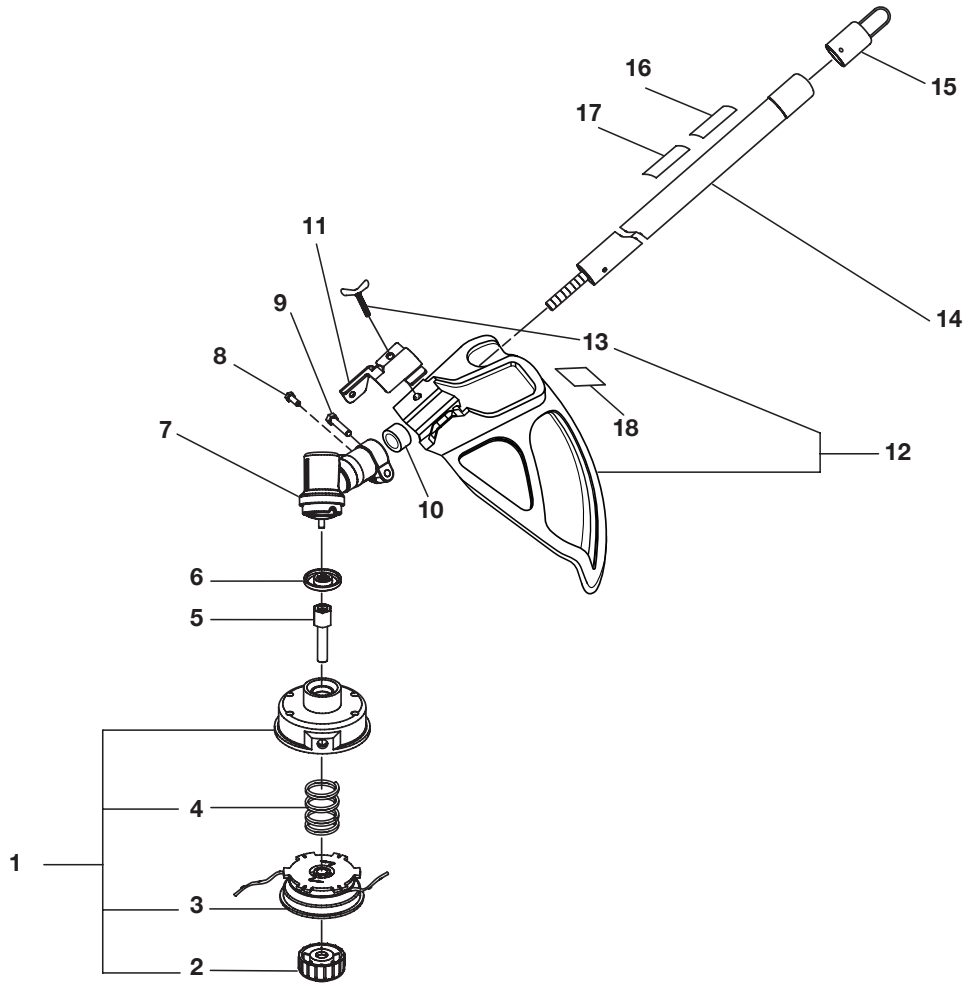


Fig. 12

EXPLODED VIEW AND PARTS LIST



Key No.	Part Number		Description	Qty.
1	000998251		String Head Assembly (includes key nos. 2-4)	1
2	308042003		Spool Retainer Assembly (L.H. Thread)	1
3	308044002		Spool & String Assembly (0.080 in. White String)	1
4	678022001		Compression Spring	1
5	678019002		String Head Adapter	1
6	678011002		Flanged Washer	1
7	308053004		Gear Case Assembly	1
8	660736001	*	Screw (#10-24 x 5/8 in., Hex Washer Hd.)	1
9	660642001	*	Screw	1
10	518367001		Spacer	1

Key No.	Part Number	Description	Qty.
11	638125001	Clamp	1
12	308473001	Grass Deflector Assembly (includes key no. 13)	1
13	660886001	Winged Head Screw (1/4-20 x 3/4-in.)	1
14	308736001	Boom Assembly (includes key no. 16-17)	1
15	518019001	Hanger Cap	1
16	940230129	Warning Label	1
17	940654018	Warning Label, UL	1
18	940726003	Expand-it Logo Label	1
	983000911	Operator's Manual (960227035)	
	983000911R	Repair Sheet	

*** STANDARD HARDWARE ITEM — MAY BE PURCHASED LOCALLY**

WARRANTY

LIMITED WARRANTY STATEMENT

Techtronic Industries North America, Inc., warrants to the original retail purchaser that this EXPAND-IT brand product is free from defect in material and workmanship and agrees to repair or replace, at Techtronic Industries North America, Inc.'s discretion, any defective product free of charge within these time periods from the date of purchase.

- One year for the following units: all Yard Broom, Trimlite, and Bandit models;
- Two years if the product is used for personal, family or household use;
- 90 days if used for any other purpose, such as commercial or rental.

This warranty extends to the original retail purchaser only and commences on the date of the original retail purchase.

Any part of the product found in the reasonable judgment of Techtronic Industries North America, Inc., to be defective in material or workmanship will be repaired or replaced without charge for parts and labor by an Expand-it authorized service center.

The product, including any defective part, must be returned to an Expand-it authorized service center within the warranty period. The expense of delivering the product to the service center for warranty work and the expense of returning it back to the owner after repair or replacement will be paid by the owner. Techtronic Industries North America, Inc.'s responsibility in respect to claims is limited to making the required repairs or replacements and no claim of breach of warranty shall be cause for cancellation or rescission of the contract of sale of any EXPAND-IT brand product. Proof of purchase will be required by the dealer to substantiate any warranty claim. All warranty work must be performed by an Expand-it authorized service center.

This warranty is limited to ninety (90) days from the date of original retail purchase for any EXPAND-IT brand product that is used for rental or commercial purposes, or any other income-producing purpose.

This warranty does not cover any product that has been subject to misuse, neglect, negligence, or accident, or that has been operated in any way contrary to the operating instructions as specified in this operator's manual. This warranty does not apply to any damage to the product that is the result of improper maintenance or to any product that has been altered or modified. The warranty does not extend to repairs made necessary by normal wear or by the use of parts or accessories which are either incompatible with the EXPAND-IT brand product or adversely affect its operation, performance, or durability.

In addition, this warranty does not cover:

A. Tune-ups – Spark Plugs, Carburetor, Carburetor Adjustments, Ignition, Filters

B. Wear items – Bump Knobs, Outer Spools, Cutting Lines, Inner Reels, Starter Pulleys, Starter Ropes, Drive Belts, Tines, Felt Washers, Hitch Pins, Mulching Blades, Blower Fans, Blower and Vacuum Tubes, Vacuum Bags and Straps, Guide Bars, Saw Chains

Techtronic Industries North America, Inc., reserves the right to change or improve the design of any EXPAND-IT brand product without assuming any obligation to modify any product previously manufactured.

ALL IMPLIED WARRANTIES ARE LIMITED IN DURATION TO THE STATED WARRANTY PERIOD. ACCORDINGLY, ANY SUCH IMPLIED WARRANTIES INCLUDING MERCHANTABILITY, FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE, OR OTHERWISE, ARE DISCLAIMED IN THEIR ENTIRETY AFTER THE EXPIRATION OF THE APPROPRIATE TWO-YEAR, ONE-YEAR, OR NINETY-DAY WARRANTY PERIOD. TECHTRONIC INDUSTRIES NORTH AMERICA, INC.'S OBLIGATION UNDER THIS WARRANTY IS STRICTLY AND EXCLUSIVELY LIMITED TO THE REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT OF DEFECTIVE PARTS AND TECHTRONIC INDUSTRIES NORTH AMERICA, INC., DOES NOT ASSUME OR AUTHORIZE ANYONE TO ASSUME FOR THEM ANY OTHER OBLIGATION. SOME STATES DO NOT ALLOW LIMITATIONS ON HOW LONG AN IMPLIED WARRANTY LASTS, SO THE ABOVE LIMITATION MAY NOT APPLY TO YOU. TECHTRONIC INDUSTRIES NORTH AMERICA, INC., ASSUMES NO RESPONSIBILITY FOR INCIDENTAL, CONSEQUENTIAL, OR OTHER DAMAGES INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, EXPENSE OF RETURNING THE PRODUCT TO AN EXPAND-IT AUTHORIZED SERVICE CENTER AND EXPENSE OF DELIVERING IT BACK TO THE OWNER, MECHANIC'S TRAVEL TIME, TELEPHONE OR TELEGRAM CHARGES, RENTAL OF A LIKE PRODUCT DURING THE TIME WARRANTY SERVICE IS BEING PERFORMED, TRAVEL, LOSS OR DAMAGE TO PERSONAL PROPERTY, LOSS OF REVENUE, LOSS OF USE OF THE PRODUCT, LOSS OF TIME, OR INCONVENIENCE. SOME STATES DO NOT ALLOW THE EXCLUSION OR LIMITATION OF INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES, SO THE ABOVE LIMITATION OR EXCLUSION MAY NOT APPLY TO YOU.

This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

This warranty applies to all EXPAND-IT brand products manufactured by or for Techtronic Industries North America, Inc., and sold in the United States and Canada.

To locate your nearest Expand-it authorized service center, dial 1-800-242-4672.

OPERATOR'S MANUAL
Expand-it™
Straight Shaft Trimmer Attachment
UT15522F

Expand-it™ Attachment System

SERVICE
For parts or service, contact your nearest Expand-it™ authorized service center. Be sure to provide all relevant information when you call or visit. For the location of the authorized service center nearest you, please call 1-800-242-4672 or visit us online at www.homelite.com.

REPAIR PARTS
The model number of this tool is found on a plate or label attached to the housing. Please record the serial number in the space provided below.

MODEL NUMBER **UT15522F**

SERIAL NUMBER _____

TECHTRONIC INDUSTRIES NORTH AMERICA, INC.
1428 Pearman Dairy Road
Anderson, SC 29625
Phone 1-800-242-4672

983000-911
3-16-06 (REV:00)